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The Electoral District of Kinistino.

At a time when, as at present, the labor markets of Europe, and more especially of Great Britain, are over-stocked to a degree almost unprecedented in the history of the world, and when both in the great centres of commerce and in the agricultural districts alike, scores of lusty men, able and willing to work, are literally crowded out from the means of earning a livelihood, it is natural that emigration should suggest itself as the readiest, if not the

classes of persons who find their energies cramped and their prospects "cribbed, cabined and confined" in their own over-populated countries. To such men the writer would say: "Come to the North-West. Whether from the long settled provinces in this continent or from the mother land beyond the broad Atlantic or from the swarming hives of Europe, come to the North-West. You will find here elbow room, which is what you re-



FARM PRODUCTS AT CARROT RIVER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S EXHIBITION, 1892.

only means, of relieving the congestion which is now sapping the vitality of the older countries. The average British farmer is in too many cases no longer the sturdy, independent yeoman of former times. High rents, low prices and deterioration of the soil, combined with an ever increasing competition from abroad, are slowly and surely working his ruin. The struggling agriculturalist, barely able to make both ends meet, or perhaps already in difficulties, is ready like a drowning man to grasp at any straw to save himself from destruction. The Canadian North-West offers him, not a straw, but a stout plank that will not only keep his head above water, but will, if aided by his own exertions, float him safely to the haven of prosperity. This plank is emigration, and the offer applies, not only to agriculturalists, but to mechanics, laborers, men with moderate capital, in fact, almost all

quire, scope for the development and exploitation of your abilities, a field for your labor and capital, and with moderate industry a sure road to competence."

The electoral district of Kinistino, in the Territory of Saskatchewan, to which it is especially intended to call the attention of intending settlers, has perhaps no equal in the whole of the North-West Territories, both as regards fertility of soil, immunity from hail storms and blizzards, regularity of rainfall and the possession of natural and other advantages which render it a most desirable locality either for grain growing or for mixed farming. This splendid tract of country lies a little to the southward of the Saskatchewan river, between the parallels 52 and 53 of North latitude and meridians 102 and 105 West longitude, and embraces an area of about 11,200 square miles, the greater

portion of which is admirably adapted to the needs of the farmer.

The soil is a rich black mould on a clay loam subsoil, its depth varying from 18 inches to 2, and in places 3 or more, feet. This soil is peculiarly favorable to wheat growing, producing heavy crops which ripen early; its natural fertility renders manure unnecessary in any form, the yield of wheat averaging 25 bushels to the acre and weighing in some instances as much as 66 pounds to the bushel. Barley and oats can be raised to perfection in the district of Kinistino, the former yielding 35 and the latter 45 bushels to the acre. Potatoes grow to an immense size and are so prolific that it is not uncommon for a single acre to produce a crop of 450 bushels. Cabbages also attain vast dimensions, beets, onions, peas, beans, turnips, lettuce, and almost every kind of garden stuff, grow well and give fine yields, and with a little care even cucumbers and tomatoes may be ripened in the open air.

The electoral district of Kinistino is at present reached via Prince Albert, but it is confidently expected that the Manitoba and North-Western Railway, which now extends to Yorkton, will be continued to Kinistino at a comparatively early date. This line will traverse the district from end to end and will place Kinistino in direct communication and within a day's journey of Winnipeg. The general aspect of the country is extremely picturesque. A visitor in the summer time approaching from Prince Albert, having crossed the south branch of the Saskatchewan, travels on a well beaten trail for a few miles through a park like expanse of gently undulating prairie, studded with poplar groves and gradually ascending, until crossing the summit of a spur of the Birch Hills, a magnificent panorama presents itself to the view. Far away to the north and east for miles and miles the country lies spread out like a map at the feet of the beholder, the verdure of the great slope of prairie contrasting with the vivid hues of myriads of wild flowers, and relieved by the darker green of the poplar and willow bluffs, with here and there a shimmering patch of azure, where the reflection of the sky above is caught and held by the summer sunlight on the little lakes that add a charm and beauty to the landscape. To the stranger who gazes on the lovely prospect and marks how sparsely scattered are the settlers' homes, that show like white dots on the vast extent of fertile land stretching away into the blue distance, the thought cannot fail to present itself that a locality so well fitted for colonization should no longer be allowed to remain comparatively a terra incognita, and that the time has surely now arrived when the capabilities of this grand district must perforce become more widely known.

The principal settlements in the electoral district are those of Carrot River and Stony Creek, which adjoin each other and together contain of land immediately available for settlers about 552,960 acres, or 1,728 homesteads, or including railway lands nearly 3,500 homesteads. The former of these settlements has already been established for a number of years and in spite of the lack of means of communication and a limited market the farmers are fairly prosperous, some who began with nothing a few years ago being now possessed of considerable property in the shape of flocks and herds. The above mentioned drawbacks will of course cease to exist with the advent of the railway. The Birch Hills settlement, a portion of which is included in the district of Kinistino, contains also many eligible homesteads, which being situated

for the most part on high land are especially well suited for ripening wheat. The soil is somewhat lighter than that of the plains, rich in phosphates and exceedingly fertile. Both timber and water are plentiful, and some of the farmers who have lived for several years in this neighbourhood state that during the whole period of their residence they have never lost a crop by frost.

The Carrot River settlement possesses an agricultural association which was established in 1888 and is now flourishing and doing good work, the exhibits of live stock and farm produce which are shown at its annual meetings being fully equal if not superior to those of any similar institution in the North West Territories. The Stony Creek settlement, which lies to the eastward of that of Carrot River, is of more recent date and possibly owing to its greater distance from Prince Albert, attracted but few settlers until last year when numerous delegates from Vermont and South Dakota, U. S. A., as well as from Eastern Canada, visited the locality. They were so favorably impressed by all they saw and so unanimous in their praises of the district that to the reports which they circulated on their return is probably due the fact that within the last 12 months or so no fewer than 150 persons have entered homesteads in the vicinity of Stony Creek, where the Dominion Government has recently caused surveys to be made of about 24 townships, while a further influx of settlers is expected to take place during the present year. A post office, to which the name of Melfort has been given, has already been established, a grist and saw mill is in course of construction on the Creek, a medical man has settled in the neighborhood, and it may be safely assumed that with the near prospect of railway communication the population of both the Carrot River and Stony Creek settlements will increase by leaps and bounds.

Wood, water and hay, the three great desiderata of the farmer are abundant in nearly all parts of the district of Kinistino. For building purposes poplar trees, both of the white and black varieties, can be readily obtained from 12 to 16 inches in diameter, spruce, tamarac, and in some localities birch are also available. The common grey willow also attains large size and makes valuable material for fence pickets and other purposes.

Water of excellent quality for domestic use is supplied by springs, which in many places, especially in the neighborhood of the Pasquia Hills, are very numerous, where these do not exist, water can readily be obtained by digging wells at depths from 8 to 40 feet. There are also many lakes in the district, some of which are of considerable size, and contain perch, jack and other fish in great quantities. Waterhen Lake, whence the Carrot River has its outlet, is about seven miles long by three in width, it is situated in a fine fertile country and although somewhat reduced in volume of late years is still a magnificent piece of water. In its vicinity are several fine farms, among which may be mentioned that of Mr. W. F. Myers, who represents Kinistino in the North West Legislative Assembly. Mr. Chas. Lowrie and Mr. Thos. Sanderson may also be cited as successful farmers in the same neighborhood. To the sources of water supply already mentioned may also be added the several creeks, which taking their rise in the Birch, and Pasquia Hills, flow in a northerly direction through the fertile plains until they join the Carrot River at various points. Stony Creek, which traverses the settlement to which it gives its name, is a rapid stream of great beauty, its waters lucid and sparkling pursue a devious course midst lovely

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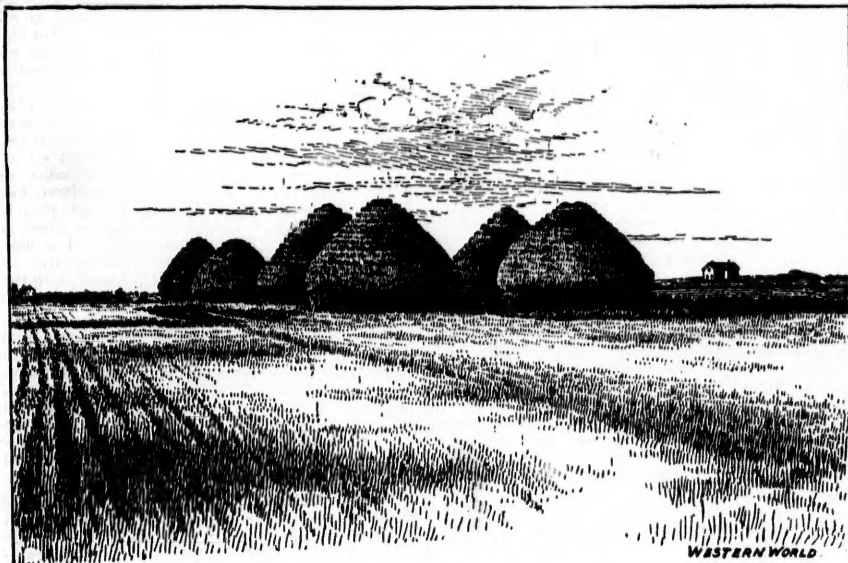
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scenery, now dashing furiously over huge boulders of lime stone and granite in the veiled depths of dark ravines half hidden by the dense undergrowth of bush and weeds that twine and tangle on its banks, now babbling over sandy shallows where the sun glancing through the overhanging willows throws chequered shadows on the ripples as they swirl over their gravelly bed and anon widening out into little pools where sleek cattle quench their thirst, pools that in days not so long gone by mirrored back the shaggy frontlet of the bison or re-echoed to the sudden splashing of the startled beaver. Bison and beaver also are vanished, though traces of them are still visible in the bleached bones that strew the prairie, and the ruined dams and dried up beaver meadows that meet the eye at almost every bend of the stream. The water of Stony Creek is exceedingly palatable and very beneficial to live stock, it is moreover available all

And now a word as to climate. There are still many people, otherwise well informed, especially in Great Britain, who cling to the delusion that the climate of the North-West Territories is not far different in its characteristics from that of the Arctic regions, that is ice-bound for three-quarters of the year and fit only for Hudson's Bay men and fur bearing animals. Nothing could be further from the truth, nothing more easily disproved. The winter season, though undeniably cold, is by no means so formidable as might be imagined if one judged only from the readings of the thermometer, nor is it of inordinate duration, a steady frost usually sets in about the second week in November and continues with but slight intermission until the middle of March; during this period the temperature occasionally falls to 40 and even 50 degrees below zero, but these cold snaps seldom last more than a few days at a time and are rarely accompanied by high



STACKS ON FARM OF MR. W. F. MYERS, M. L. A., KINISTINO.

the year round, never drying up even in the hottest seasons.

Hay of the most nutritious kind is furnished in plenty by the rich grasses and sedges which grow abundantly on the margins of the sloughs that occur here and there in all parts of the district, and the upland pasturage is unequalled for its fattening properties. Native horses require no other food and may be turned out in the winter without artificial shelter, they can easily obtain a sufficiency of food by pawing away the snow and usually are found in excellent condition on the return of spring. Cattle, being unable to paw, require to be fed with hay during the winter months. Grass to be used for hay is usually in its prime about the latter end of July, though it is frequently cut much later. No tedding is necessary, the grass being left where it falls under the mower for about 24 hours, and then raked into cocks for a short period before being stacked, it is then fit for use and requires no further curing.

wind; the atmosphere moreover is so dry that the lowest temperature experienced is not nearly so unbearable as it would be in a country like England for example, where the air contains a large amount of moisture. The terrible storms of wind and snow known as blizzards, which sweep over the bare plains of Dakota, U.S.A., are here unknown, and it is seldom indeed that out-door work is stopped even for a day by inclemency of weather. Snow, as a general rule, does not fall in any great quantity until after Christmas and is scarcely ever more than 16 to 20 inches in depth, it thaws out gradually towards the end of March and by the second week in April, the waters, released from their icy thrall, are again in motion in the creeks, men and teams are at work in the fields, and though an occasional snowstorm may for a few brief hours impart a wintry aspect to the landscape it is quickly effaced by the genial sunshine, while the advent day by day of migratory birds gives emphasis to nature's fiat that spring-

tide has at length arrived. Plowing and sowing now proceed with the least possible delay, germination quickly follows, and the grain, receiving ample moisture as the soil gradually thaws out, grows with astonishing rapidity.

June is usually a rainy month and it is for the regularity and plenitude of its rainfall that the district of Kinistino stands pre-eminent. This satisfactory state of things is chiefly owing to the ranges of wooded hills which traverse the district, and the thickly timbered country in the south which engender humidity and attract thunderstorms; it is also noteworthy that notwithstanding this abundant rainfall there is no lack of sunshine; the sky is but seldom entirely overcast, and the alternation of heavy showers with unclouded summer heat offers the most favorable condition for rapid development of growing crops. From the middle of August fine weather may be expected right through the fall, and harvesting operations are seldom interrupted by rain. About the equinox snowstorms generally occur, after which comes another spell of fine weather, which lasts until the setting in of winter in the early part of November. That the climate is healthy all are agreed; even in the height of summer, when the glass occasionally rises above 90° in the shade, the heat is far less oppressive and sultry than in more humid climates. There is generally a cool breeze all day and men can work in the sun without the feeling of lassitude which a hot day in England produces. Sunstroke is comparatively unknown, and let the days be ever so hot they are invariably followed by cool, pleasant nights. No malaria exists, even in marshy localities, and notwithstanding the severity of the winter, diseases of the chest and lungs are extremely rare, in fact cases are not unfrequent in which persons with a tendency to pulmonary weakness have been set up in health by a change to the invigorating air of the North-West.

Much has been said and written concerning the risk of damage to growing wheat by early frosts; in many cases this risk has been greatly exaggerated. That such frosts do occasionally occur is undeniable, and it is equally true the farmers in the district of Kinistino are from time to time subjected to loss from this cause, though to a less extent than in most other localities. The period of anxiety is in the latter part of August when a lowering of temperature sometimes takes place on calm nights, causing the thermometer to fall a few degrees below freezing point at a time when the wheat is in the milk stage and thereby causing some damage to crops, especially if the field be situated in a hollow or below the level of the surrounding country, but wheat sown in good time, in a suitable situation on properly cultivated ground, is very seldom frozen, and what danger exists can be still further lessened by the employment of early varieties of seed grain. It should also be remembered that wheat even if frosted is not a total loss but is still available for fattening live stock.

Of all the advantages, natural and otherwise, which render the district of Kinistino so greatly adapted in every way to the needs of settlers, the most important, and that which places it far in advance of other new settlements in the North-West Territories, is the early prospect of direct railway communication. There is now no reasonable doubt that the Manitoba and North-Western railway which is already open from Portage la Prairie, on the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, to Yorkton, in the Wallace district, will in the near future be carried on to Prince Albert. This line

will pass through the heart of the most fertile portion of the unsettled as well as the settled parts of the district, with an effect upon their prosperity which cannot be over estimated. Let us pause for a moment to consider what this effect will be. It will mean primarily an influx of settlers to be followed by the erection of grain elevators, the establishment of creameries, a rise in the value of real estate, the advent of men of enterprise and capital, a ready market for all kinds of produce, and the formation of the nucleus of another city to be added to the list of those glorious monuments of progress which, mushroom like in their speedy growth, though resembling the oak in stability, are year by year steadily increasing in number throughout the western portion of the vast Dominion. And vain would be the endeavor to fix a limit to the rise and progress of such a city, for great as are the immediate advantages to be derived from the transit of the Manitoba and North-Western line through the district, they are slight when compared with the stupendous impulse to commercial and agricultural enterprise which will thrill through the North-West on the completion of a railway from Winnipeg to Hudson's Bay, with a shipping terminus at Fort Churchill. This projected railway has already been sanctioned by the Dominion Parliament and its construction in view of the rapidly increasing population of Manitoba and the North-West Territories will in all probability be not much longer deferred. That such an outlet has become a necessity to the proper development of the resources of this country is patent to all, to say nothing of its value as a port of shipment of food supplies to Great Britain in the event of war, while its effect as a stimulus to the trade and well-being of Western Canada is simply incalculable.

The settlers in the district of Kinistino will probably, owing to its geographical position, be more directly benefitted by the proposed Hudson's Bay line than those of any other portion of the Territories. Their cattle, for example, will naturally command a considerably higher price and will reach the coast in better condition when sold within 500 miles of a shipping port than when, as at present, they have to be conveyed by rail to Montreal, a distance of over 2500 miles, and what is of still more importance to farmers in these regions there will be a ready market for coarse grain as well as wheat. If one considers the immense quantities of barley and other cereals annually shipped to the United Kingdom from the Danube, Odessa, Taganrog and other places in the Black Sea and Sea of Azov, and reflects that the sea transit from these ports is longer and the navigation more intricate than is the voyage from Churchill to Liverpool, it is natural to conclude that as soon as the Hudson's Bay Railway is open to traffic the demand for barley, oats, etc., for shipment by this outlet will speedily attain proportions extremely satisfactory to farmers who are fortunate enough to be located in the vicinity of the new route.

Speaking of barley leads to the subject of hog raising. These animals can be reared in this district with great facility and at a minimum of cost. There can be little doubt that speculative enterprise will shortly prompt the erection of a curing factory and there is no reason why, with the Hudson's Bay line as a means of transport, pork and bacon from the North-West Territories should not be placed on the English markets at as cheap a rate and equal, if not superior, in quality to that which is at present exported to Great Britain from Chicago, thus opening the door to an industry both lucrative in character and unbounded in extent.

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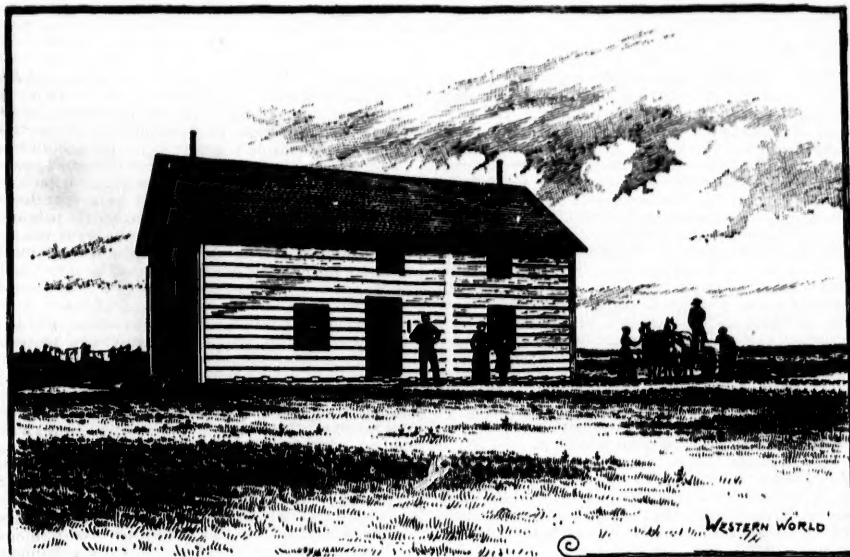
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With a ready market for cattle, coarse grain and hogs, in addition to wheat and dairy produce, the prosperity of the farmer will be assured, for he will have the satisfaction of knowing that should any portion of his No. 1 hard suffer any injury from untimely frost, the wheat so damaged will not be lost, but converted into a source of direct profit in the shape of pork or beef.

The district of Kinistino with its undulating prairies, rich pasture and pure water is in a high degree suitable for the breeding of sheep, they stand the cold well, give but little trouble and, owing to the dry atmosphere in winter, are free from many diseases which sheep are subject to in other climates. Wolves and coyotes, although sheep are sometimes killed by them, are not sufficiently numerous to cause any great amount of loss, thus the rearing of sheep may be regarded as one of the most profitable branches of mixed farming in

he wings his heavy flight towards the north, or swoops down upon a stubble field to assuage his insatiable appetite for grain. The sand hill crane, a fine bird approaching a turkey in size and very good eating, is frequently seen, and several species of sandpiper and other wading birds are common about the edges of the ponds. About dusk in the autumn evenings the sportsman may enjoy flight shooting to his heart's content; from his hiding-place among the bullrushes on the margin of some lake he hears at short intervals the rapid swishing of many wings and fires shot after shot with deadly effect on the serried columns of ducks as they sweep overhead or come squattering down upon the water by his side. From wild animals of a noxious or dangerous character the district of Kinistino may be said to be almost entirely free, the common black bear is not unfrequently met with, but is in every respect harmless. Timber wolves



A PIONEER FARMER'S HOUSE AT STONY CREEK, SASKATCHEWAN.

which the settler can engage, as it is estimated that the returns from wool alone will more than cover the expenses incidental to their raising.

Game of various kinds is plentiful in every part of the district, and in addition to affording healthful recreation to the sportsman forms a valuable adjunct to the settler's larder. Moose, elk and deer are still pretty numerous in the wooded portions of the country, though it must be confessed that much perseverance and a considerable amount of woodcraft are indispensable to success in hunting them. Prairie chickens, wood partridges or ruffed grouse and rabbits are very plentiful and afford good sport during the autumn and winter. Spring is marked by the advent of myriads of wild ducks of many varieties, mallards, spoon bills, red heads, blue and green winged teal, widgeon and other species arrive in immense numbers and remain until the end of October when the approach of winter drives them to the southward. In the spring may be heard the cry of the wild goose as

are hardly ever seen and the smaller species, such as prairie wolves or coyotes, though apt to worry lambs, have a wholesome dread of mankind.

And now having briefly set forth the natural advantages of this favoured land and having shown how perfectly adapted it is to the needs of the immigrant, it may be well to add a few words regarding the qualifications necessary to success. A man may come into the country with but a few shillings in his pocket and in a few years find himself the owner of a well-stocked and thriving farm, but to attain this he must be healthy and robust, with a capacity for hard manual labor, industrious, self-denying, and with sufficient common sense to enable him to take full advantage of the means which bountiful nature has placed at his disposal. Such a man is absolutely certain to succeed. A moderate amount of capital will enable him to achieve the desired result in a much shorter period.

A previous knowledge of farming, though, desir-

able is not absolutely essential, indeed it is well known there are at this moment in the settlements not a few prosperous farmers who, until they came to the North West Territories, had been engaged in totally different pursuits, but what is really a sine qua non is steady hard work, whether in person or by proxy, if the new comer be in a position to hire labor. With a free grant of 160 acres of splendid land to which he may add another 160 by

purchase on extremely easy terms, a fine climate, exemption from rent and in a great measure from taxation also, the settler who puts his shoulder to the wheel will soon become independent, and in no part of the North West Territories will he find more facilities or have a better prospect of attaining this happy condition than in the electoral district of Kinistino.

The Kinistino District.

By Wm. Ogilvie, D. L. S., of the Department of the Interior Survey Staff.

This district includes townships 35 to 47, ranges 1 to 23 west of the 2nd meridian, and the same townships in ranges 30 to 32 west of the 1st meridian; also townships 45, 46 and 47, ranges 15 to 30 west of the 1st Meridian. Its north west corner almost touches the south branch of the Saskatchewan River. Carrot River rises in the north west part of the district, and crosses its north boundary about range 16 west of the 2nd meridian. The Birch Hills are situated about the middle of the western boundary and continue eastward to about range 15 or 16, when they merge into the Pasquia Hills which continue north eastward and cross the north boundary about range 6. Many fine creeks flow out of these hills northward into Carrot River, principal among which are Melfort creek, (formerly called Stony Creek) and Leather River, (sometimes called the Hanging Hide River.) There is some fair spruce timber situated on the head of these streams, and a small saw and grist mill is in course of erection on Melfort Creek, in township 44, range 18 west of the 2nd meridian.

Mr. Reginald Beatty, who has lived in the township during the past nine years, and has pretty well examined all the surrounding country, states that Carrot River is navigable for flat bottomed, stern wheeled steamers from its mouth up to the junction with Leather River. Carrot River joins the Saskatchewan River just below Indian Pear Island Lake. Red Deer River rises near the centre of the district and flows generally north eastwards through the northeast corner into Lake Winnipegosis. Lakes and ponds are numerous in the district. Many of the former are quite large. The water is generally brackish, but not unfit for use.

It is probable the Manitoba and North Western Railway will cut the west half of the district pretty well in two, and the North West Central Railway will traverse the south west corner. The district also lies almost directly in the line of the probable railway from Prince Albert to Hudson Bay, which, if any railway to the Bay is a success, must also be successful. Its probable means of communication with the markets of the world are therefore equal to those of any other part of the Territories. Prince Albert is distant from Churchill, on the Hudson Bay, by the probable route of the railway between them, about 700 miles, and Churchill is in round numbers about 8000 miles from Liverpool. For the greater part of its length this road will pass through timbered country, much of which will no doubt be available for lumber purposes,

thus placing this district in a most advantageous position for its supply of lumber. In addition to this there are extensive forests on the northern side, which will yield large quantities of lumber. Coal was found last summer in the vicinity of Prince Albert, but as yet its extent is unknown. If found in quantity this will guarantee the surrounding country cheap fuel. It may be that it will be found in other parts of the adjacent country. The soil in the district from its west boundary as far east as range 16 west of the 2nd meridian is to my knowledge nearly all good loamy black clay; and I know I am within the mark when I say, there is as small a percentage of waste land in this part of the district as in any other similar area in any part of the Territories. The easterly part of the district is pretty well wooded, but there appears to be some fine prairie openings in it. Hay lands are numerous in the vicinity of Carrot River and Melfort Creek, and cattle can be raised without much trouble. It is not pretended that cattle can be raised as cheaply here as in the grazing lands proper of the more westerly parts of the Territories, where they can graze out the whole year, for here they have to be sheltered and fed during the winter, but even so with the advantage of much hay, both on the prairie parts and in the woods surrounding it, and its immense advantage of proximity to sea board if the Hudson Bay navigation scheme is developed, I think cattle raising here will pay just as well as on the grazing land further west. There are vast feed grounds in the Birch and Pasquia Hills where wild peas and vetches grow luxuriantly. On these cattle can feed until quite late. Mr. Reginald Beatty has sometimes allowed his young stock to remain out in these hills until December.

A small part of the district on the head of Carrot river has been settled for 12 or 14 years, and crops have been good. Mr. R. Beatty has been farming on Melfort Creek for nine years, and has always been successful. The quantity and quality in both places would compare well with the best. Last summer there was quite an influx of settlers in the Melfort Creek valley from Dakota and other parts of the United States, also some from the eastern provinces and the old country. All seem to be satisfied with their venture and are hopeful for the future. To sum up I would say there is a very large percentage of this district which offers as good inducements for mixed farming and cattle raising as any other part of the North-West.

The Stony Creek District.

By Reginald Beatty.

Stony Creek district is situated in the electoral division of Kinistino and during the past summer has attracted a great deal of attention from delegates and immigrants and over 200 homesteads have been entered. Some eight years ago, on retiring from the Hudson's Bay Company's service, during which time I had seen a great part of the North West, I decided to settle with my family on a farm and having heard this district highly praised by the natives, I came out and found it even a finer country than reported, so I located on section 20, township 44, range 18, west of the 2nd meridian, and have continually resided here since.

I have grown wheat, oats, barley and peas, also all kinds of vegetables, with good success, and have had a crop every year, never a complete failure; of the different varieties of wheat sown, Ladoga has proved the surest, invariably ripening before frost. The country as a rule is rolling prairie, well watered by running creeks and occasionally a lake, springs are numerous, and on every farm water can be obtained by digging. Timber is abundant both to the south and east, chiefly poplar with some spruce and birch.

We generally stable our cattle some four months, sometimes less, native horses winter out and do well; last year we lost six pair fed calves early in August and being busy did not bother about them late in the season; we finally found them some 30 miles from home on December 23rd, fat and kicking and drove them home in a day; they would no doubt have easily wintered out.

The district is well situated for prospective rail-

way facilities, the Manitoba and North-Western Railway intend building through the district. The Hudson's Bay Railway will in all probability traverse it, and the most feasible route to the lower Saskatchewan is along the Pasquia hills directly through this settlement. Our post office, Melfort, is now the terminus of the mail route easterly from Prince Albert, saw and grist mills are now being built, on Stony Creek, both a medical man and a veterinary surgeon have settled down amongst us the last summer a large number of stock have been brought in, and the prospects for this season are very bright, and there are numbers of vacant homesteads still to be had, twelve townships having been surveyed during the past summer.

The illustration on page one, is from a photograph showing some of the vegetable, root and grain exhibits at the 1892 show of the Carrot River Agricultural Society. The views on pages 3 and 5 show a group of stacks on the farm of Mr. W. F. Myer's, M. L. A., and the farm house of the pioneer settler, Mr. Reginald Beatty.

Persons wishing to learn more about the district are invited to correspond with Mr. W. F. Myer, M. L. A., whose address is Kinistino, Saskatchewan. The free homesteads in the district are administered by Mr. John McTaggart, Dominion Lands Agent, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

Opinions of Vermont Delegates.

In May of this year a number of delegates from the state of Vermont, U.S.A., on the solicitation of Mr. D. J. Waggoner, Colonization Agent for the Dominion Government, visited the north-east portion of Saskatchewan with a view to selecting lands for settlement. As a result the majority of them decided to locate there, some have already gone on to the lands selected and others are making arrangements to do so. Following are extracts from reports made by them, the originals of which have been officially filed with the Department of the Interior.

J. R. Parker, of Morrisville, Vermont says at Prince Albert they were met by Mr. S. S. Ross, who acted as guide for the party to Stony Creek, where they found as fine a section of country as the sun ever shone upon, with a soil of fine rich mould varying from 12 to 24 inches in depth, in fact one of the best places for mixed farming in the world. It is fast being settled with good, intelligent people and is in his opinion a good place for

industrious people of moderate means to procure homes for themselves.

I. H. Kelley, Barre, Vermont, says that being a farmer of some extent and wishing for broader fields he decided to look over the Saskatchewan district. On May 9th, he started from Prince Albert for Stony Creek, crossing fine farming lands. At Mr. Harper's, where the party stayed the first night, he found some of the finest farming lands he had ever seen, with plenty of timber and water and lots of game. The second night he spent with Mr. Prvin who has a fine farm, on which last season 450 bushels of oats were raised on five acres. There is plenty of timber and water, the soil being a dark rich loam some two feet deep or more. He also saw very fine land at Melfort Creek and was astonished at the quantity of game. Large herds of cattle and large fields of wheat, oats and barley were seen on several farms. He met several settlers with their families, goods and cattle coming from Dakota to settle at Melfort

Creek, also a colony of English people. He saw as fine farm lands on his trip as a farmer might wish to have.

Ellis B. Draper, another of the Vermonters, says he went over a large tract of country between Prince Albert and Stony Creek that will settle a million of people. Several townships which were newly surveyed were found to be equally as good as those that were already settled. There is also a large amount of unsurveyed country that is equally as good. The soil at Prince Albert he considered the richest he ever saw, with any amount of good grasses and an abundance of timber for all purposes. He looks upon the Saskatchewan district as the poor or middle man's paradise. He visited several large farms in the vicinity of Prince Albert, seeing one of 900 acres on which the seeding was nearly completed. The live stock was all found in good condition and the country proved to be even better than Mr. Waggoner had represented it. Mr. Draper could not return to Vermont without securing for himself and family 640 acres of land upon which he intends to make his future home.

E. E. Howison, Worcester, Vermont, says he found the Prince Albert district a gently rolling prairie, well watered and wooded. At Carrot river and Stony Creek he found a beautiful deep rich loam suitable for any crop. J. Campbell raised 1000 bushels of oats off 10 acres there, and his general yield

averages, wheat, 40 to 50 bushels an acre; barley, 50 to 60; oats, 60 to 75. He saw a mare and colt that had wintered out and were in excellent condition. He found a good class of settlers, all of them being kind and intelligent. The Stony Creek section is settling up very fast, he considers this country with its soil and climate the finest section to which any industrious man can go. He has taken up a quarter section and will remove from Vermont.

Almon Leach, Craftsburg, Vermont, who also went from Prince Albert to Stony Creek, says that after crossing the south branch of the Saskatchewan he came to a beautiful country with a very rich black soil that cannot fail to bring forth an abundant harvest. He travelled for 7 days seeing a vast extent of the most excellent land and is so satisfied that he has located on 160 acres.

J. F. Lowell, Wolcotte, Vermont, says he visited the Stony Creek district and found a nice farming country with a rich black soil, 20 inches deep. The country is admirably adapted for mixed farming or grain raising and he considered a man with a family could get a living with half the labor necessary in Vermont. He found the settlers very generous and ready to do all in their power to make new comers welcome. He has gone home to make arrangements to return and will either purchase or homestead.



A FARM BETWEEN PRINCE ALBERT AND KINISTINO.